



ROADRUNNER

FOUNDED 1968

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Volume 54, Number 5

January, 2023

CALENDAR

Jan 2, Mon, 5:00 pm
Pre-meeting dinner at
Wood Ranch Camarillo

Jan 2, Mon, 7:00 pm
Monthly Program 
see instructions

Jan 7 & 8, Sat & Sun
Salton Sea
see page 2

Jan 11, Wed, 8:00 am
Beginner Bird Walk
See page 2

Jan 15, Sun, 8:00 am
CSU Channel Islands
See page 2

Jan 20, Fri, 7:45 am
Point Mugu Naval Air Base
see page 2

Jan 28, Sat, 8:00 am
Lake Casitas
See page 2



Malachite Kingfisher
Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin

BACK AT THE WESTERN FOUNDATION!

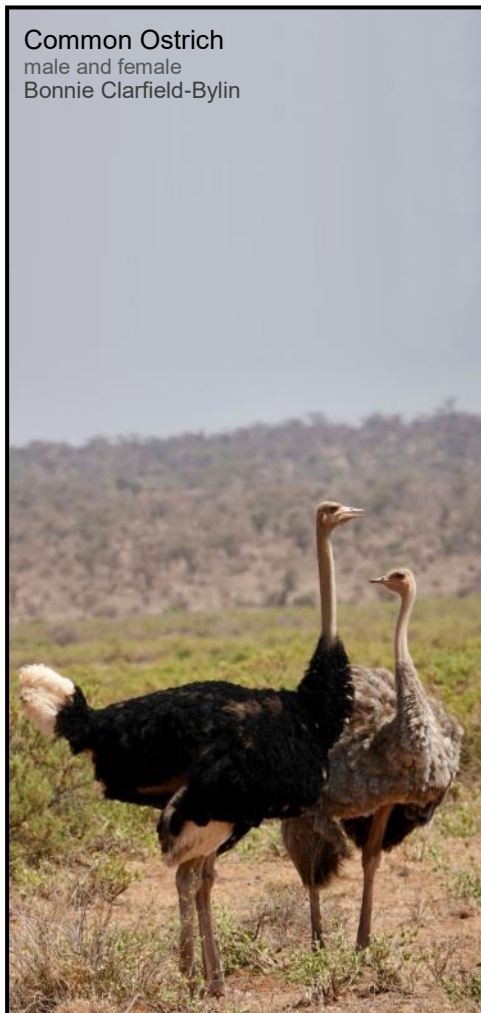
We are now holding our meetings back at **Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology**, 439 Calle San Pablo in Camarillo. Masks will be required for in-person attendees, but you will be able to talk to your friends face to face.

These meetings will be hybrid, simultaneously available live and on Zoom. The link to join on Zoom is as before: <https://zoom.us/j/6155249106>

January's speaker will be **in-the-flesh** at WFVZ. Plus, she'll join us for the pre-meeting dinner at Wood Ranch Camarillo, so you can chat with her about Kenya or anything else you might want to. For reservations, call **Nobuko McClure** at (805) 482-0411, **no later than 9:00 am** the day of the Monthly Program.

JANUARY MONTHLY PROGRAM A BIRDING SAFARI IN KENYA

Common Ostrich
male and female
Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin



To travel the world looking for small birds is to see everything, for how can you miss an elephant, leopard, historic monument or larger bird? In March and April 2022, Lifetime Naturalist and Conservationist, retired U.S. National Park Ranger, World Traveler and CVAS Board Member Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin and her husband, Stephen, traveled to Kenya for five weeks. For twenty-seven days they adventured on a guided Birding Safari. This program will provide a snapshot of the birds, wildlife and scenery of Kenya.



Bateleur Eagle
Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin

NOVEMBER BIRDING TRIPS

Since we're still living with some degree of pandemic concerns, CVAS will continue its careful approach to birding trips. **Masks will no longer be required for outdoor events**, but we won't be offering extra binoculars to share, so please bring your own. And finally, **please bring water, wear comfortable shoes and observe social distancing**. **RAIN CANCELS**

January 7 Saturday Lunchtime to Sunday Afternoon - Salton Sea

Contact leader, Peter Robertshaw, for instructions at PeterRobertshaw@verizon.net

January 15, Sunday - California State University Channel Islands

Meet at 8 am at Old Hueneme Rd. Leader is Sammy Cowell - (818) 470-7098

January 20, Friday - Point Mugu Naval Air Station

Contact Frank DeMartino at (805) 427-0987 by December 25th to get your info to the Navy. On Jan 20, meet at the parking lot outside the main gate on Naval Air Road (frontage road along Hwy1) We'll head out at 8 am, **so be there early!** Dave Pereksta leads.

January 28, Saturday - Lake Casitas

Meet at 8 am outside the gate off Hwy 150. Leader is Tina Tan - tinastacytan@gmail.com



Wednesday, January 11, 8:00 am – Beginner Bird Walk

Conejo Valley Audubon invites birders of all experience levels to attend our monthly Beginner Bird Walk at Rancho Sierra Vista/Satwiwa. These walks are held on the second Wednesday of each month. We will meet at 8:00 am at the main parking lot, which is accessible off Lynn Road at Via Goleta in Newbury Park. Rancho Sierra Vista is an excellent place to see many of the oak woodlands birds that are common in the Conejo Valley area. We will take time to introduce beginning birders to these species and will teach the best techniques for locating and identifying them. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Bring water and social distance.

Please register in advance by contacting your walk leader Richard Armerding at (310) 701-3878.

Disclaimer: Everyone is welcome to attend any Conejo Valley Audubon field trip, but Conejo Valley Audubon assumes no responsibility for injuries, personal or otherwise, incurred while attending a CVAS sponsored activity and in order to attend, all attendees agree that CVAS is not liable for such accidents. Everyone attends at their own risk.

REMEMBERING BETS BUCHANAN

Dear Bets was such an enthusiastic supporter of CVAS. She was club Historian since time immemorial, and she diligently collected birdy tchotchkes all year long for the raffle table at the Annual Dinner/Auction. She usually had good birds to report at monthly meetings, and on bird walks, she was a dynamo ... hard to keep up with.

Dee Lyon said, "Bets was always ready for an adventure. I would call her and say do you want to go ... and before I even mentioned the name of the spot, she would say 'Sure!' I will never forget our two weeks in my Astrovan as we birded Texas High Island in about 1999."

Linda Easter reminisced, "I have many memories of birding with Bets over the years. She was always really interested in what she was seeing and fun to be with. One of my best memories is the CVAS trip to Costa Rica in 1996 (organized by Sharon Lovell). Bets and her husband were in the group that went, as were Darryl and I. It was a spectacular trip and we all bonded while there."

Bonnie added, "While I did not know her well, she was so often present at monthly programs and bird walks, bringing a warm smile and enthusiasm that will be missed!"

She will indeed be missed!



NATIVE PLANT TIP

by Jennifer de la Torre

If you feel like the late fall and early winter landscape in your yard is dreary, consider planting a Toyon. This plant will provide year-round interest, with the visual treat of beautiful red berries in the late fall and winter. As a bonus, you'll have small white flowers in spring and summer. Toyon *Heteromeles arbutifolia* (AKA Christmas Berry or California Holly) is one of CVAS's six recommended anchor plants for a native landscape with good reason. It provides food to insects AND will bring a variety of cool birds to your yard for both food and shelter. Our yard has been graced with everything from Hermit Thrushes to Robins, Scrub Jays, Cedar Waxwings, Hummingbirds, Mockingbirds, Warblers, Western Tanagers, Red-tailed Hawks, Coopers Hawks, and MORE!

Toyon can be skinned up and shaped as a beautiful tree, or kept in shrub form. If you have the room, it's a GIVEN as one of the top bird plants!

[https://calscape.org/Heteromeles-arbutifolia-\(Toyon\)](https://calscape.org/Heteromeles-arbutifolia-(Toyon))



Toyon
Jennifer de la Torre



Toyon
Jennifer de la Torre

DR. LINNEA HALL HONORED AT HEDRICK RANCH

On Friday, December 9th, a new nature trail at Hedrick Ranch along the Santa Clara River was dedicated to Dr. Linnea Hall, our friend and Executive Director of Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, in recognition her years of restoration and conservation work in support of the environment and wildlife which call it home, especially birds like the Yellow-billed Cuckoo and the Least Bell's Vireo. Special honors were also presented by, Friends of the Santa Clara River, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the City of Camarillo, and the County of Ventura and René Corado's El Lustrador Foundation.



Linnea Hall
Sandy Hedrick
René Corado

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING ZOOM

For those few who haven't yet used Zoom, it is a computer tool that allows you to meet with other people online. Zoom can be used on a computer, tablet or smartphone. You may wish to watch this video for more information:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E>

When you join the meeting, you will be able to hear and see the presenter on your device, and if your computer has a microphone and camera, you will also be given the choice of whether you want to be heard or seen by other meeting participants. Though, in most cases we'll be muting everyone except for the presenter until the question and answer period.